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COUNTRY Czechoslovakia REPORT NO. _____

TOPIC 1. MIMON Parachute and Airborne School

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EVALUATION _____ PLACE OBTAINED _____

DATE OF CONTENT _____

DATE OBTAINED _____ DATE PREPARED 13 February 1950

REFERENCES 25X1A

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) 1 sketch on ditto; 1 standard manpower questionnaire

REMARKS _____

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1. The parachute school (vzadkova skola), PS Utvar No 5441, post-office box No 1/5, stationed at the HRADCANY (O 51/F 94) airfield, and the MIMON (O 51/F 95) airborne troops school (Vysadkova skola), VS Utvar No. 5441 were assigned to the MIMON air landing troops training center.
2. The strength of the parachute school varied (for quarters see Annex 2) as the students changed continually. Three sublieutenants, four sergeants and two corporals constituted the instruction personnel.

CO of the school was Staff Capt PESAN, Dpty CO, 2d Lt SIKMUND, OBZ officers Sub-Lt NAVRATOL, and education officer 2d Lt PRISALA.
3. The officers were armed with pistols and the EM with submachine guns of German or British make. The parachute school was not equipped with weapons, as all students attending the school had graduated from the airborne troops school where they had been armed with submachine guns.
4. The course at the parachute school lasted for six weeks: One week: Training in running, jumping, and rock climbing. Three weeks: Training in landing somersaults in full uniform. Two weeks: Training in parachute jumping. Each soldier had to make five jumps.
5. CO of the airborne troops school was Maj TALASEK. The course at the school, lasting for four to six weeks comprising instruction in engineering and sabotaging, handling of explosives, infantry and radio operator training.
6. The soldiers who were selected by their regiment and battalion commanders, attended first the airborne troops school for four to six weeks, then the parachute school for six weeks and were then assigned to the air landing companies.

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No Change of Status ONLY

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Class. Changed To: TS S (C)

Auth: HR 70-2

Date: 08 JUN 1978By: 023

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7. The air landing troops training center was directly subordinate to the MNO (Ministry of National Defense).
8. In August 1949 the parachute school participated in the final maneuvers at the KAISERWALD troop training grounds for five days. The soldiers were carried to the GLEB (K 51/P 37) airfield by DC-3s and JU-52s. Source was the leader of a 20-man group with whom he was to jump over a designated area. Because of rainfall, however, the group was trucked to the spot.

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Comment:

a. The air landing troops training center is very probably the previously reported parachute training center stationed in STRAZ POD RALSKEM. Staff Capt WEHNOTA is carried as CO of the parachute training center. Other sources confirmed that the parachute school at the HRADCANY airfield is under the air landing troops training center.

b. The information on the existence of an airborne troops school is received for the first time. Maj TALASEK, reportedly CO of the school, is, according to other reports, CO of the 71st Inf Bn which was renamed 1st Parachute Bn.

c. Utvar No 5441 has not been confirmed.

d. [REDACTED] that the air landing troops training center was subordinate to the MNO.

e. Of the names mentioned in para 2 only Staff Capt PESAN is known.

f. The statement that the parachute school participated in the maneuvers in KAISERWALD was not confirmed by other reports.

- 2 Annexes: 1. Standard Manpower Questionnaire
2. Parachute School at HRADCANY Airfield

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